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REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Note by the Secretariat

1. It will be recalled that at its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, by decision 46/467 of 20 December 1991, took note of the report of the Secretary-General on administrative, structural and other aspects of the improvement of the efficiency of the Organization (A/46/633) and the report of the Secretary-General on facilities management in the United Nations (A/45/796 and Add.1). By the same decision, the Assembly deferred consideration to a later stage at its forty-sixth session of the report of the Secretary-General on extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations (A/46/545) and the note by the Secretariat on the application of workload analysis techniques at the United Nations (A/C.5/46/CRP.1).

2. In February 1992, the Secretary-General initiated the first phase of the restructuring of the Secretariat at Headquarters. A note on the restructuring of the Secretariat of the Organization (A/46/882) was submitted to the General Assembly at its resumed forty-sixth session. The Assembly adopted resolution 46/232 of 2 March 1992 in which it requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, "to submit to the General Assembly at the earliest opportunity a report on the programmatic impact as well as the financial implications of organizational changes involved in his initiatives and the progress attained in accordance with the present resolution".

3. In response to that resolution, the Secretary-General has submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session revised estimates for the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 under the agenda items "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" and "Programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993" (A/C.5/47/2 and Corr.1).

4. It will be the intention of the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on all relevant aspects of the restructuring of the Secretariat, in the context of the review of the efficiency of the functioning of the United Nations. It will be noted that the Committee for Programme and Coordination recommended that reporting on the various qualitative aspects of the restructuring process could take place in the context of the implementation of the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 46/232. In addition, the Secretary-General will report to the General Assembly at an appropriate time during the course of its forty-seventh session on the subsequent phases of the restructuring process.

5. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that owing to lack of time during the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Assembly will consider at its forty-seventh session the report on extrabudgetary resources of the Organization and the note on the application of workload analysis techniques at the United Nations mentioned in paragraph 1 above.